



1 (Court called to order.)

2 (11:37 a.m.)

3 THE COURT: The Speight matter, please. All right. If  
4 everyone would state their name, please. Starting with you,  
5 ma'am.

6 MS. KAEUBLEIN: Amanda Kaelblein.

7 THE COURT: Sir.

8 MR. SPEIGHT: Michael Speight.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 MS. PADILLA: Elaine Padilla (phonetic), Probation, Your  
11 Honor.

12 THE COURT: Good morning. Go ahead, Officer.

13 MS. PADILLA: Your Honor, the father has filed a complaint  
14 for 209(c). He is seeking custody of the minor child, who will  
15 turn seven in June. He indicates that he has not seen the child  
16 in approximately 21 months. And that is not disputed.

17 He is seeking joint legal custody. He is seeking alternate  
18 weekend parenting time plus one day per week, and he is looking  
19 to share holidays. He was also looking to meet at the Melrose  
20 Police Department for the purpose of exchanging the child during  
21 scheduled visits. At this time, mother is opposed to father  
22 having any contact with the minor child, and there is no  
23 agreement at this time.

24 THE COURT: Well, what's --

25 MS. PADILLA: There's a -- there's a no-harassment order in

1 place. There is not a restraining order in place.

2 THE COURT: There's not a restraining order.

3 MS. PADILLA: No. Father has presented some documents  
4 today. Mother has copies of everything. He appears to have  
5 filed some sort of civil litigation in New Hampshire. I believe  
6 it was filed this month -- no, I'm sorry, in February, like,  
7 around the 24th. It has not been heard yet.

8 As far as the other documents, there are things like  
9 collateral contacts showing that he's taking his Vivitrol shot,  
10 showing he's in counseling. Mother has been given copies of all  
11 documents.

12 THE COURT: Okay. What would you like to say, sir?

13 MR. SPEIGHT: Yeah. Your Honor, I heard you earlier. You  
14 said more is less, so I'll just give you a brief rundown.

15 THE COURT: I was talking about exhibits, really. Less is  
16 more. Instead of giving me 10,000 pages, you can give me, you  
17 know.

18 MR. SPEIGHT: All right.

19 THE COURT: Right. What have you got to say?

20 MR. SPEIGHT: So on June -- on May 28th, Mother left with  
21 minor child out in New Hampshire and came to Massachusetts. She  
22 then asked me to start paying child support. With no order, I  
23 started paying her child support. I paid child support with the  
24 order and without an order since May 28th of 2022.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1       MR. SPEIGHT: And I haven't seen my daughter since that  
2 day. So litigation started in New Hampshire after she was  
3 offered a restraining order on May 28th. She denied it and said  
4 I wasn't violent. I have the police report right here from  
5 Derry -- Derry Police Department, if you want it.

6       Then she attempted to get three other restraining orders on  
7 me, and they all failed. She only got the harassment order  
8 because she -- I was bogged down with litigation, and I couldn't  
9 miss any more time at work, and I missed the hearing. And they  
10 gave her the harassment order for a no show.

11       So New Hampshire was continuously exercising jurisdiction.  
12 In July, she put in a motion to dismiss and moved to  
13 Massachusetts. It was denied. And then she took it upon  
14 herself, still, to go to the DOR and ask for a child support  
15 order.

16       So before my parenting plan in New Hampshire, 12 days  
17 before the parenting plan, Massachusetts put in a temporary  
18 order. And that got my --

19       THE COURT: For parenting or for child support?

20       MR. SPEIGHT: Just for child support.

21       THE COURT: All right.

22       MR. SPEIGHT: She didn't file for custody. She only wanted  
23 child support. Now, the reason why she wanted child support is  
24 in New Hampshire, it goes to 18. In Massachusetts, it goes to  
25 26.

1       THE COURT: well, not 26 -- 23.

2       MR. SPEIGHT: 23. It's still a significant amount of time  
3 more. Anyways, what I'm getting at is she wouldn't let me see  
4 my daughter the whole time. So I appealed the decision to the  
5 Supreme Court in New Hampshire. I denied because the  
6 Massachusetts judge, after the child was in Massachusetts for  
7 six months, put in a full order.

8       Then I filed for custody here. The whole time, she hasn't  
9 let me see my daughter. She let me speak to her twice on the  
10 phone at the beginning.

11       If you look at the Massachusetts transcripts, she says we  
12 were together five years. And if you look at the New Hampshire  
13 transcripts, she says I never had a relationship with my  
14 daughter at all. And as you can see, I entered pictures into  
15 evidence that I did have a relationship with my daughter. and  
16 I -- and I want to continue that relationship.

17       THE COURT: What are you looking to have happen today, sir?

18       MR. SPEIGHT: I want every other weekend. And I want one  
19 day a week, and I shouldn't pay -- I shouldn't have to pay. And  
20 I can read you constitutional provisions where a father enjoys  
21 the same right.

22       THE COURT: You -- you're the father. You're the mother.  
23 You both have rights, okay.

24       MR. SPEIGHT: I want joint custody. I want every other  
25 weekend and one night a week.

1       THE COURT: Okay. What do you say, ma'am?

2       MS. KAEUBLEIN: Your Honor, do you mind if I refer to my  
3 notes on my phone?

4       THE COURT: That's okay.

5       MS. KAEUBLEIN: Thank you so much. I did bring all the  
6 legal documentation as well. I'm not aware of any of that being  
7 true. I want to start off by saying yes, we were in a  
8 relationship. We had a beautiful daughter together who was six  
9 and a half. She's actually on the autism spectrum, so she  
10 suffers from emotional issues.

11       I want to say that we stayed together for that long because  
12 we -- me and my family and friends all rooted for him during  
13 nefarious behaviors. When this started, we -- I left him  
14 because I had found out that he was engaging in paying  
15 prostitutes. I did not think that was appropriate for my  
16 daughter to be around that type of behavior, and due to past  
17 addiction issues, I know what kind of state he's in when he  
18 engages in any type of addiction.

19       He called my work after this happened and opened a  
20 compliance investigation on me at my job. They closed it with  
21 no findings, and they actually were not even comfortable enough  
22 calling him back because he was so aggressive towards my job.

23       My job holds the health insurance that gives my daughter  
24 her BCBA services five days a week. She would have lost her  
25 services that she's had since she was a baby. Two ex partes

1 were filed on me in New Hampshire for emergency removal. They  
2 were both dismissed by the New Hampshire courts.

3 I've had frivolous cases filed on me after every single  
4 court hearing that him and I have had. There's always a new  
5 open case. And like he said, he's now suing my mother and my  
6 father, me, the DOR lawyer from Massachusetts, and I believe  
7 he's also -- he's also filed against the State of Massachusetts,  
8 which I believe is closed.

9 He's been very -- his behavior has been very manipulative.  
10 I've been informed by others that he's showing ill intent over  
11 social media, along with other people in his life. He's used  
12 the court system for intimidation and financial hardships. He's  
13 told me that my father is going to have to remortgage his house  
14 after he's done in the court system. My lawyer had told me to  
15 file for criminal harassment. He says that he always wins in  
16 court.

17 I want my daughter to feel safe. The letters of  
18 recommendation that he's provided, I don't know any of these  
19 people, so I'm not really sure. I know a different side of him,  
20 unfortunately. He has threatened psychological damage if he  
21 gets my daughter. Writing over and over again Mama and Papa  
22 won't let you see me. Mama and Papa won't let you see me, over  
23 and over again.

24 He's made threats that are -- I'm actually uncomfortable  
25 even standing up here today because of the criminal background.

1 And there's violence in our past. We've had open DCF cases, and  
2 I dropped a third-time felon on him because I wanted to him to  
3 have a relationship with his daughter. I was -- it was advised  
4 not to.

5 THE COURT: Let me ask. Dad hasn't seen your daughter for  
6 some period of time.

7 MS. KAELBLEIN: Yes.

8 THE COURT: So do you think there should be any parenting  
9 order put in place?

10 MS. KAELBLEIN: I do not.

11 THE COURT: Forever and never?

12 MS. KAELBLEIN: I don't believe that, no.

13 THE COURT: So tell me -- tell me what you think should --  
14 the right thing to do is.

15 MS. KAELBLEIN: I think that he needs to work on himself.  
16 I think that he needs anger management. I think that he needs  
17 intensive therapy. There's a lot of things that I think that he  
18 needs, to be honest.

19 I think he probably knows better what he needs. But just  
20 from what I've seen, I believe that he needs those types of  
21 things. A lot of anger management, a lot of therapy, parenting  
22 classes, maybe. I don't even know what other services are  
23 offered beyond that. But I would say that any services that are  
24 offered, he would probably need.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else you want to say?

1       MR. SPEIGHT: Yeah. Your Honor, all this is hearsay. She  
2 has no paperwork or anything to prove this. She's used this  
3 before in the restraining orders. They got denied. It's -- you  
4 know, it's a tactic to manipulate the Court and keep me away  
5 from my child.

6       Because me and my daughter had a wonderful relationship.  
7 And at times, she was jealous over my daughter and my  
8 relationship because I didn't show her the same attention. The  
9 relationship was ending, and I didn't show her the same  
10 attention that I showed my daughter.

11       And, you know, if this. I don't see how this can -- can  
12 continue. I mean, I have rights as a parent. And you know, all  
13 I want to do is see our child. I want to raise our child  
14 together. And she -- she's unwilling to do that.

15       THE COURT: Okay. I'll take it under advisement. Okay.  
16 Thank about what to do. Thank you, folks.

17       MS. KAELBLEIN: Thank you.

18       (Hearing concluded at 11:47 a.m.)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T I O N  
2

3 I, TAMARA BENTZUR, COURT-APPROVED TRANSCRIBER, DO HEREBY  
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13 AM NOT FINANCIALLY NOR OTHERWISE INTERESTED IN THE OUTCOME OF  
14 THE ACTION.

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*Tamara Bentzur*

March 21, 2024

17

TAMARA BENTZUR  
AAERT CERTIFIED TRANSCRIBER (CET-824)

18 DATE  
19

20

ESCRIBERS  
7227 NORTH 16TH STREET  
SUITE #207  
PHOENIX, AZ 85020  
(973) 406-2250

21

22

23

24

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MICHAEL S. SPEIGHT v.  
AMANDA KAELEIN

March 14, 2024

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